

## **Frederick Douglass: Introduction and Early Childhood**

*"My son, hear the instruction of your father, and do not forsake the law of your mother." – Proverbs 1:8*

1. According to Rayford Logan, what is unique about Frederick Douglass' writings?

They were written by a former slave

They were actually his own words

They were widely published

2. How many years before Douglass' death was his revised *Life and Times* published?

5 years

10 years

3 years

3. George L. Ruffin writes that Douglass' status in later life was "another proof that success attends high and noble aim." In 3-5 sentences, explain whether you agree or disagree with Ruffin's assessment. Use what you have learned from Proverbs 1 and 2 in writing your answer.

4. What does Ruffin consider “the most interesting portion” of Douglass’ life?

5. Ruffin observes that “Douglass never made the mistake...of considering that his education was finished.” List three ways described in Proverbs 1 and 2 how you can continue your education, even if you are not in a formal school setting.

1)

2)

3)

6. In what Maryland county was Douglass born?

Talbot County

Frederick County

Anne Arundel County

7. Name the three most influential women in Douglass’ early childhood and one attribute Douglass notes about each of them:

1)

Attribute:

2)

Attribute:

3)

Attribute:

8. Douglass describes the slave system as seeking to “reduce man to a level with the brute” and as having “no interest in recognizing or preserving any of the ties that bind families together or to their homes.” Give three examples where these same characteristics are illustrated in Proverbs 1 and 2.

1)

2)

3)

9. Douglass recounts when his mother taught him “that I was not only a child, but somebody’s child.” How did this understanding impact him? How does it impact a Christian to understand that he or she is God’s child? Answer in 3-5 sentences.

10. Which do you think Douglass would have considered “the law” of his mother, that he did not forsake for the entirety of his life?

A dignified manner of behavior

A love for learning

A determination to succeed